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Docket No.: SHO-0035  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Nobuo Yaegashi

Application No.: 10/697,040

Confirmation No.: 8364

Filed: October 31, 2003

Art Unit: 3713

For: GAMING MACHINE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- ☒ A copy of each listed document, that was cited in the International Search Report or International Preliminary Examination Report attached hereto, should have been provided to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by the WIPO, and the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98 should have been complied with.
- ☒ A copy of the rest of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98

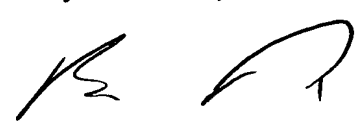
The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

☒ Any document having neither English translation nor English abstract has been cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or international application, or its related application. A copy of the communication is attached hereto, accompanied by English translation of at least relevant part, if it is not in English. English translation of the document is not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).

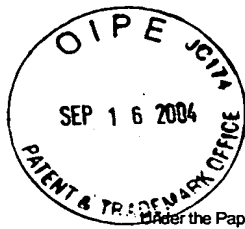
☒ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. **No fee is required** (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)). The Patent Office is **NOT AUTHORIZED** to charge deposit account 18-0013 under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p). However, **ONLY IF** a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge deposit account 18-0013 in the amount of \$180.00 for payment of the fee under 37 CFR §§ 1.97(c)(2) and 1.17(p).

Dated: September 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)  
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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/697,040 Conf. #8364
				Filing Date	October 31, 200
				First Named Inventor	Nobuo Yaegashi
				Art Unit	3713
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	SHO-0035

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-4743024-A	05-10-1988	Helm et al.	
	AB	US-4947995-A	08-14-1990	Eguchi	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	BA	DE-1181960	11-19-1964	Ferdinand Florstedt FA		
	BB	EP-0726544-A1	08-14-1996	Konami Co., Ltd.		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	CC	International Search Report, mailed on August 9, 2004	

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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